

## DUPE REVEALS SECRETS OF FORGER SYNDICATE

Says Livingston Sent Him to Canada with Password to Get Checks.

### WAS "TOOL," HE ASSERTS

Clever Penman Who Forged Names So Skilfully Banks Certified Paper Without Question Is Still Free.

Through the arrest yesterday of Joseph Gasterer on a bench warrant charging him with forgery in the second degree the District Attorney learned more of the methods by which Myron A. Livingston is alleged to have swindled banks all over the country out of from \$30,000 to \$100,000. Livingston was arrested last week as the head of the gang of forgers. Three more indictments charging forgery in the second degree were filed yesterday against Livingston, who is alleged to have used an elaborate password system for his "tools."

Gasterer was arrested at his home, at No. 145 West 19th street, by Detectives Flood and Leigh, of the District Attorney's office, and Donnelly, of the Pinkerton agency. He is asked to be taken before the District Attorney to make a clean breast of his part in Livingston's affairs. He was taken before George Z. Medaille, the Assistant District Attorney, who has charge of the Livingston case.

Gasterer said he was formerly a prosperous furrier and had known Livingston in a casual fashion for years. When he failed in business Livingston came to him, he said, with an offer of work which would pay well. Gasterer did not know, he said, that the work was illegal, although he had his suspicions.

#### Used Password in Toronto.

In August, 1911, Gasterer said, he was sent to Toronto by Livingston. He was instructed to take a check from a young man he would meet in the station, who would exchange passwords with him. That young man, Mr. Medaille has discovered, was Louis Fastenberg, who supposed that the work he was doing for Livingston was in regard to real estate deals.

Gasterer said he later learned that not only did he and Fastenberg go to Toronto on the same train, but that Livingston went along, too, and kept an eye on them to see that they carried out their part of the deal.

Fastenberg, it is alleged, took with him a draft on the Royal Exchange Bank of Canada for \$5,000, which was issued by the Broadway Trust Company, in exchange for a forged certified check. At the station in Toronto he met Gasterer, who was dressed in accordance with a description previously furnished to Fastenberg. Following out the prearranged plan, Gasterer addressed him in the following terms: "Hello, are you a married man?" Gasterer gave in reply the catchword which he says was furnished by Livingston: "No, not on your tinytive."

Having thus identified himself to Fastenberg, the latter, Gasterer says, handed him the draft which he cashed. He returned to New York ignorant of the fact that Livingston was keeping a watchful eye on him and met Livingston in his office. There, Gasterer says, he turned over the \$5,000 to Livingston, minus expenses and \$200 commission.

#### Forger Still at Liberty.

Gasterer was arraigned before Judge O'Sullivan in General Sessions and remanded to the Tombs in default of \$2,500 bail. Livingston is still in the Tombs, having been unable to find bail, which in his case was fixed at \$10,000. The pen artist who, it is alleged, forged signatures on checks so skilfully that banks never hesitated to certify the checks, has not been arrested.

Besides the indictment for the Tombs affair, two other indictments returned against Livingston yesterday are in reference to checks amounting to more than \$10,000. One was a check for \$10,000 drawn on the City National Bank to the order of "cash" and purporting to be signed by Gaudig & Blum, furriers. The other was for \$2,500 drawn on the City National Bank, payable to Knauth, Noyes & Kuhn, and which was signed by N. Lampert, a neighbor of Livingston in Borough Park, Brooklyn.



Stop a moment!  
How about your Winter overcoat?

"Regular" dark oxford and black coats with velvet collars. Rough finished coats of Scotch mixtures.

Motor coats of "double texture" cloth, roomy raglans, double-breasted belted-back coats.

Fur lined coats.

Fur outside coats.

Silk lined evening coats with Persian lamb collars. Storm ulsters.

Christmas furs.  
Fur coats, fur gloves, fur caps, fur foot muffs, fur robes, fur rugs.

ROGERS PEET COMPANY,  
Three Broadway Stores  
at Warren St. at 13th St. at 34th St.

## CORT THEATRE OPEN TO-NIGHT

Laurette Taylor, in "Peg o' My Heart," by J. Hartley Manners, Will Be First Attraction to Appear at New Playhouse.



THE NEW CORT THEATRE, IN WEST 48TH STREET. It will open to-night with "Peg o' My Heart," in which Laurette Taylor will appear.

New York's newest playhouse will be thrown open to the public to-night when the lights go up in the Cort Theatre, in West 48th street. Laurette Taylor in "Peg o' My Heart," a new play by J. Hartley Manners, under a comparatively new manager, Oliver Morosco, will have the honor of dedicating this latest temple of the stage art. It is the first of three theatres to be erected in the East by John Cort, himself a new factor in local theatricals.

The new theatre is the work of Edward B. Corey, who has drawn upon the architecture of the time of Louis XVI of France for his inspiration. Its facade is of marble, with four Corinthian columns as its most distinctive feature.

In its interior the Louis Seize type is also maintained. The lobby of the theatre is of Pavonazzo marble, with panels of Marie Antoinette plaster work, the metal work of the box office being bronze with gold leaf and enamel relief. The design and execution have been in the

### HOPES MAYOR IS LIBERAL

Canon Chase Expects Fair Treatment for "Movie" Law.

The assumption that Mayor Gaynor would veto the Folk's motion picture ordinance because Canon William Sheafe Chase, whom the Mayor does not look upon with favor, is one of those who suggested the amendment providing for an official censorship, was treated by Canon Chase himself yesterday as preposterous.

"This," said he, "is attributing a little-ness in the mind and nature of his honor the Mayor, which I hope does not exist—to think that the Mayor, for private and personal reasons, would veto the Folk's bill."

As for the amendment giving the Board of Education the duty of censoring motion picture films, Canon Chase said:

"The legality of such a provision has twice been approved by the highest court of Illinois. There is nothing to prevent pictures being shown in the city which the voluntary censorship board never sees. The showmen want the official censorship because they want legal and decent pictures for their patrons. The manufacturers are foolishly opposing it because if they own immoral films this would prevent their being shown in New York. But in the end the manufacturer will reap a benefit from the increased confidence of parents that in allowing their children to attend motion picture shows they will not be doing them an injury."

### SLAYER OF "ZOPO" FREED

Coroner's Jury Decides Shooting Was in Self-Defence.

John Russomano, who shot and killed Amelio Prisco, alias "Zopo, the Gimp," of No. 235 First avenue, last Monday morning, was discharged yesterday by Coroner Hallenstein, a jury having decided that the killing was done in self-defence.

The dead man was characterized by the police as a leader of Italian blackmailers. He went into a coffee saloon at No. 318 East 10th street, kept by Joseph Galucci, Monday morning, and, drawing a revolver, threatened to kill the proprietor if he did not give him \$100. Russomano, who is a nephew of Galucci, was in the saloon at the time and shot Prisco.

### SCATTER AS GIRDER FALLS

Christmas Shoppers Escape Injury in Fifth Avenue Accident.

Christmas shoppers on Fifth Avenue scattered in excitement yesterday afternoon when a girder and a section of the arm of a derrick fell from the Twenty-sixth Street and Fifth Avenue Building. The crash of the girder as it landed in the basement and the snapping of the derrick arm alarmed hundreds of shoppers, and they scurried for places of safety.

Their cries and the shouts of workmen on the building gave rise to the fear that several persons had been injured, and a call was sent to Police Headquarters for ambulances. When the excitement quieted it was found that Dominic Chefone, a laborer, of No. 28 East 15th street, was the only one hurt. His injuries were slight.

### LEAVES STEPSON ONLY \$5

Woman of 85 Gives Rest of Estate to a "Friend."

Mrs. Mary Ann Powelson, of Newark, cut off her stepson with a \$5 bequest and left the bulk of her \$25,000 estate to a man who had befriended her for eighteen years. This became known when her will was filed for probate in Newark yesterday. Mrs. Powelson was eighty-five years old.

Anthony C. Vail, at whose estate Mrs. Powelson died, receives the estate. The will was dated October 11 last and refers to the \$5 gift to the stepson "as and for my full share of my estate and no more."

WIRELESS CO. GOT \$945,566

U. S. Attorney Wise Rests Case and Defence Begins To-day.

After three weeks the prosecution rested its case yesterday in the trial of Cameron Spear, A. Frederick Collins, Charles L. Vaughan and Joseph H. Reall, who are charged with having used the mails in a scheme to defraud investors.

Thomas F. Quinn, of the firm of Henry & Wise, United States Attorney, showed that the public lost at least \$95,566 through the promotion of the "C. L. Vaughan Telephone Company," which claimed to have 100,000 subscribers.

William Elliott and David Belasco present

REPUBLIC West. Evenings at 8:15. Mats. Wed. and Sat. 2:15.

GOVERNOR'S DAY

HAMMERSTEIN'S Lillian Lorraine, Ching Ling Foo & Co., Bert Leslie, 12 others.

## BLAMES MCNAMARAS, AND MCNAMIGAL FOR ALL

Krum Tells Jury in Dynamite Trial That Labor Unions Had No Part in Crimes.

### HOCKIN CALLED "IAGO"

Noel Says He Never Told Same Story Twice and Was One of Originators of Outrages.

Indianapolis, Dec. 19.—On the McNamara brothers and Ortie E. McManigal, "the confessed dynamiters" who in the name of labor unions committed crimes against which civilization revolts, but in which labor unions took no part, Chester H. Krum, arguing to the jury in the "dynamite conspiracy" trial to-day, rested the responsibility for the series of explosions which the forty defendants are charged with having caused.

Mr. Krum, associated with Senator John W. Kern as counsel for the defence, told the jurors the government had failed to show that Frank M. Ryan, president, and other officials of the ironworkers' union had violated the federal statute prohibiting the carrying of explosives on passenger trains and that the government had based its charges chiefly on the admissions of the dynamiters.

The defense's counsel attacked the confession of McManigal as given on the stand "because this same McManigal is an admitted thief, who testified in court that he stole 1,200 pounds of dynamite and hid it in the shed of his unsuspecting father at Tiffin, Ohio." Mr. Krum said:

It is not within the power of the federal government to prosecute for acts of intimidation committed against employers of non-union labor. These defendants are charged with conspiring to carry out acts of terrorism against federal law and it has not been shown that they did so conspire or that they met together specifically with a view of violating that law.

It has been charged here that local labor unions were instrumental in causing the dynamite to blow up non-union jobs. The government has characterized James B. McNamara, the destroyer of human life at Los Angeles, as a degenerate, a satanic, a murderer, or God knows what. If all John J. McManigal is to be held as a paranoiac there never was one. Think of how in the name of union labor he directed the crime which buried human beings and property all into one red burial. We regret that any such condition can ever again be brought about in a civilized community.

When Mr. Krum told the jury that the statute of limitations had run against some of the acts charged, Judge Anderson interrupted him, saying: "You tell that to the jury and I shall instruct the jury it is not the law."

Stories which the government charges

Herbert S. Hockin told while acting as

"the Iago of the dynamite conspiracy" were related by Special Assistant District Attorney James W. Noel in continuing his argument to the jury this afternoon.

He said:

In betraying all with whom he had to do, Hockin never told the same story twice. Still this man, the Iago of the conspiracy, whispering a different story each time, was willing to swear to the facts of the scheme to blow up non-union jobs with dynamite. He was ambitious and wanted to get out of the way those who were opposed to him. Ortie E. McManigal had complained that Hockin was withholding part of the \$200 fee allowed for each expert. The dynamiters were about to ditch him, so Hockin decided to betray them.

Mr. Noel declared that the testimony of Thomas Taggart, Democratic national committeeman, amounted to nothing.

J. D. Fredericks, District Attorney of Los Angeles County, started for Los Angeles to-night to prepare for the second trial of Clarence Darrow on a jury bribing charge, which is set for January 6.

SUBWAY SUICIDE IDENTIFIED.

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CHARLES S. HOROWITZ, president of the New York Frame and Picture Company, of No. 142 Fulton street, was convicted yesterday of filing false proofs of loss in an attempt to defraud fire insurance companies of more than \$20,000. Horowitz filed claims to the amount of about \$50,000.

One article for which he put in a claim for \$250 was the propeller of the aeroplane in which Moissant circled the Statue of Liberty. It was hanging on the walls of the Aero Club at the time of the fire.

Bruno Rothenberg, who will be sentenced on Monday, had been hired by Horowitz to burn the store. He was convicted of having fired the place by so arranging chemicals that they were mixed when an alarm clock went off and combustion ensued.

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